

*Social Security*

When the committee was dealing with this matter in April, May and June of last year, the figure of \$40 to \$50 million was still thought to be a rather large sum. That was before trouble broke in Korea. But now, in the light of the total money we are being called upon to vote this year, that amount dwindles to the point where surely no one in the house can object to the motion of the hon. member for Terrebonne on the ground of what it might cost to implement the recommendations contained therein.

That is all I wish to take time to say just now, for I want to see this motion voted on, and passed. My point is that the old age security committee is the one committee in recent years that has taken time to go into all these various problems. Our terms of reference required that we stick to old age pensions, but this problem was so pressing that we commented on it, we indicated what it might cost—a really small figure in terms of present day budgets—and we made it clear that in our view something had to be done for these people. I hope that the motion will come to a vote today and that the house will support it.

**Mr. A. J. Brooks (Royal):** Mr. Speaker, like the members who have already spoken, I intend to take only a few minutes. I recall the work of the committee on old age security, to which the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles) has referred. We were all disappointed that the terms of reference of the committee did not include the persons mentioned in the resolution of the hon. member for Terrebonne (Mr. Bertrand). The fact that so many members feel they should say but a few words and that it is not necessary to make a long speech indicates, I think, that this is a subject which speaks for itself. I, like other members, have had the serious situation of crippled people brought very clearly to my attention many times. Some years ago I was a school inspector, and in going through my district I often met young people who were crippled. At that time I was so impressed by their helplessness that I thought it was a shame that something was not done for them.

I also sympathized with the situation of the parents. They used to bring their children to school, and I would say to them that it was going to be a very difficult matter to look after the crippled boy or girl; they would answer that they did not mind so much while they were living, but what worried them most was what was going to happen to the boy or girl after they had ceased to be able to care for them.

[Mr. Knowles.]

This is indeed a problem for the people of Canada. We have looked after our old people. We have looked after our blind. I know of many old people who need far less attention than the crippled children we see in our communities. The old people have lived their lives; many of them have homes and children to look after them. In many cases, however, the parents of these young people are dead and they have no one to look after them except perhaps their brothers and sisters. You go into the homes of these brothers and sisters who are married and have their own children growing up, and you find these poor young men and women sitting there, unable to look after themselves or to do anything to help themselves.

I do hope, Mr. Speaker, that this matter will come to a vote in the house. I congratulate the hon. member for Terrebonne (Mr. Bertrand) upon having brought it up again, and I believe it should receive the support of every member here.

*(Translation):*

**Mr. Pierre Gauthier (Portneuf):** Mr. Speaker, just a few words to congratulate the hon. member for Terrebonne (Mr. Bertrand) on the motion he has placed before the house.

Every time a motion such as this is being considered, I am reminded of two names that were familiar when I represented my constituency in the provincial legislature. They are that of Mr. David and of Dr. Lessard. As Mr. David so often said, he was always trying to help the unfortunate in his province. Working in close co-operation, Dr. Lessard and Mr. David established the basis of legislation that brought assistance to those who did not have the strength to resist the onslaught of disease.

They are responsible for the establishment in my province of health units that seek to prevent disease, thereby contributing to lower the number of disabled. In setting up the bases for the present health units, they established in the province of Quebec a system whose value does not seem to be fully appreciated.

Many years ago, when preventive medicine first appeared, I remember that Quebec city's best physician, Dr. Ahearn, who had gone to France at the end of the nineteenth century, used the aseptic method. At the time, several reports were published on the methods used in surgical techniques. Physi-